

## Application for Proclamation

### Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness Week

**November 18-24, 2025**

**WHEREAS**, antimicrobial resistance occurs when bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites change over time and no longer respond to medicines, making infections harder to treat and increasing the risk of disease spread, severe illness, and death. Antimicrobial resistance harms our health, food systems, environment and economies; and,

**WHEREAS**, the range of antibiotic use varies from 403 per 1000 to 755 per 1000 residents across Ontario. Windsor-Essex County (WEC) leads the highest prescribing at 755 prescriptions per 1000 residents in comparison to the provincial average of 535 per 1000 residents; and,

**WHEREAS**, antimicrobial resistance is recognized as one of the most urgent public health challenges of our time. If current antibiotic use continues, it is estimated that by 2050 approximately 10 million people worldwide could die annually from infections caused by resistant organisms. In 2021, bacterial drug-resistant infections were associated with an estimated 4.71 million deaths globally, of which 1.14 million deaths were directly attributable to bacterial antimicrobial resistance; and,

**WHEREAS**, without decisive global action, up to 39 million deaths could be directly attributable to bacterial antimicrobial resistance between 2025 and 2050 – equivalent to three deaths every minute; and,

**WHEREAS**, World Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness Week, observed annually from November 18-24, aims to increase both public and professional awareness of antimicrobial resistance. The campaign promotes best practices across healthcare settings to prevent the spread of drug-resistant infections and to preserve the effectiveness of antimicrobials for future generations; and,

**WHEREAS**, this November, the Town of Essex proudly joins the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit (WECHU) in raising awareness of antimicrobial resistance and promoting the responsible use of antimicrobials among healthcare professionals, policymakers, and the public; and,

**THEREFORE:** I, Sherry Bondy, Mayor of the Town of Essex, do hereby proclaim **November 18, 2025 – November 24, 2025, “Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness Week”** in the Town of Essex.